

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 REYKJA 00461 271155Z

46 S

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00

PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SPC-03 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 SAM-01 DODE-00 SS-20 NSC-07 H-03

OMB-01 ACDA-19 EB-11 EURE-00 DRC-01 /129 W

----- 102617

O P 271020Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4427

INFO CINCLANT PRIORITY

COMICEDEFOR PRIORITY

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L REYKJAVIK 0461

DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS TO CNO ADMIRAL ZUMWALT IMMEDIATE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (ZUMWALT, ELMO R., JR.)

SUBJECT: ADMIRAL ZUMWALT'S VISIT TO ICELAND

REF: REYKJAVIK 0453 AND 0456

1. EVENTS OF PAST FEW DAYS MAKE CNO'S VISIT TIMELY. MUCH CONFUSION AND SHEER IGNORANCE EXIST AMONG ICELANDIC POLITICIANS ABOUT THE "STATE OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC." THERE IS STRONG STREAK OF SKEPTICISM IN ICELANDIC GOVT ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF THE IDF. MOST ICELANDERS BELIEVE THAT DANGER OF WAR IN NORTH ATLANTIC IS NIL; THAT WE CURRENTLY ENJOY A MORE PEACEFUL SITUATION THAN EXISTED DURING PERIOD 1949-51 WHEN THERE WERE NO FOREIGN TROOPS IN ICELAND. ICELANDERS RESIST EXPLANATION. THE CNO'S TASK IS TO TRY TO MAKE A CREDIBLE ARGUMENT TO INFLUENTIAL ICELANDERS AS TO WHY A MILITARY STATION IS ICELAND IN "PEACETIME" IS ESSENTIAL.

2. CNO HAS MET FONMIN AGUSTSHBN A FEW TIMES SO THAT HE IS FAMILIAR WITH THE DIFFICULTY HE FACES IN PENETRATING THE ICELANDIC MIND.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 REYKJA 00461 271155Z

THIS SMALL AND INTENSELY NATIONALISTIC COUNTRY HAS BASIC ANTIPATHY

TO ANYTHING MILITARY. THE GENERAL LINE OF QUESTIONS WILL PROBABLY BE AS FOLLOWS: (A) WITH GENERAL TREND IN EAST-WEST RELATIONS TOWARD DETENTE, ISN'T THIS BEST POSSIBLE TIME FOR ELIMINATION OF BASE IN ICELAND? (B) IF BOTH NORWAY AND DENMARK CAN CARRY OUT THEIR OBLIGATIONS TO NATO WITHOUT FOREIGN TROOPS, WHY CANNOT ICELAND? (C) WOULD NOT REMOVAL OF BASE FROM ICELAND FORCE SOVIETS TO MAKE

SOME RECIPROCAL GESTURE? (D) HOW CAN SMALL NUMBERS OF TROOPS HERE BE SAID TO MAKE IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION TO DEFENSE OF AREA OR EVEN PROTECT ICELAND? (E) DOES NOT PRESENCE OF BASE AUTOMATICALLY MAKE ICELAND NUCLEAR TARGET? (F) WHY CANNOT FUNCTIONS OF BASE BE CARRIED OUT JUST AS WELL ELSEWHERE? (G) WITH U.S. CONGRESS PRESSING FOR REDUCTION OF U.S. TROOPS ABROAD, ISN'T IT LIKELY REMOVAL FROM ICELAND WILL SOON TAKE PLACE ANYWAY?

3. ICELANDERS ARGUE AMONG THEMSELVES AS TO WHICH IS MORE IMPORTANT: DEFENSE OF ICELAND OR THE ASW SURVEILLANCE ACTIVITY. TOO MANY STILL FAIL TO REALIZE THAT THEY ARE ONE AND THE SAME. ICELANDERS FEEL A RESPONSIBILITY TO NATO BUT THEY WILL NOT ADMIT TO THEMSELVES THAT THEY ARE AN IMPORTANT LINK IN THE NATO DEFENSE CHAIN. THE CNO NEEDS NO COACHING, BUT WE WOULD SUGGEST HIS DISCUSSIONS CONVEY THE MULTILATERAL NATURE OF THE NATO DEFENSE SYSTEM; THE EXTENT TO WHICH EACH NATION'S DEFENSE AND CREDIBILITY DEPENDS ON CONTRIBUTIONS AND CAPABILITIES AND LOCATIONS OF OTHERS; IMPORTANCE OF DETERRENCE IN DISCOURAGING ATTACKS; EXTENT TO WHICH ALL NATO ALLIES RELY UPON ADVANCE WARNING SYSTEMS AND REINFORCEMENT AND RE-SUPPLY IN CASE OF ATTACK; AND NECESSITY FOR ACCURATELY EVALUATING AND RESPONDING TO POTENTIAL ENEMY'S CAPABILITY. CNO WILL UNDOUBTEDLY BE CALLED ON TO COMPARE U.S. AND NATO NAVAL STRENGTH WITH SOVIETS.

4. CNO WILL FIND MANY OPPORTUNITIES TO FIELD NARROW QUESTIONS WITH BROAD ANSWERS. HE WILL, HOWEVER, BE CONFRONTED WITH PURELY LOCAL COMPLAINTS SUCH AS BASE TV PROBLEM, IMPORTS OF MEAT PRODUCTS BY BASE, AND DISPOSAL OF BASE GARBAGE. CNO WILL BE BRIEFED ON THESE AS WELL AS POLITICAL SITUATION ON ARRIVAL IN REYKJAVIK.

5. MANY QUESTIONS MAY SEEM NAIVE, BUT THEY MUST BE TREATED SERIOUSLY. IMPRESSION MUST BE AVOIDED THAT FOR THE U.S. CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 REYKJA 00461 271155Z

ICELAND IS ONLY "AN IMPORTANT PIECE OF REAL ESTATE" (AN EXPRESSION WHICH SHOULD NEVER BE USED HERE).

6. CNO SHOULD AVOID DISCUSSION OF SPECIFIC POINTS IN LATEST GOI NEGOTIATING PROPOSALS, BUT THERE ARE WAYS OF "EDUCATING" THE ICELANDER AROUND THESE. THIS MATTER WILL BE DISCUSSED BY AMBASSADOR UPON CNO'S ARRIVAL.

7. WE LOOK FORWARD TO CNO'S VISIT. IT MAY BE ONE OF THE FEW  
OPPORTUNITIES WE WILL HAVE TO PUT ACROSS THE MILITARY ARGUMENT  
FOR IDF RETENTION TO SO MANY ICELANDIC DECISION-MAKERS.  
IRVING

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 27 MAR 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974REYKJA00461  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740066-0078  
**From:** REYKJAVIK  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19740311/aaaaajxu.tel  
**Line Count:** 119  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** REYKJAVIK 0453 AND 0456  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 20 MAY 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <20 MAY 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <04 FEB 2003 by GolinoFR>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ADMIRAL ZUMWALT'S VISIT TO ICELAND  
**TAGS:** OVIP, (ZUMWALT, ELMO R JR)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005